[26th November 1948

Admissions to the Vivekananda College.

* 149 *Q.*—Sri B. BHIMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Hon. Minister issued a circular to the management of the Vivekananda College, Mylapore, in March 1948 to constitute advisory committees for the purpose of admissions to the said college; and if so, whether the Government propose to lay a copy of the communiqué on the table of the House; and

(*b*) whether the Managing Authorities of the college have sent a reply to the Hon. Minister and if so, to what effect and whether the Government will be pleased to lay the reply on the table of the House?

The Hon. Sri T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—

"(*a*) No communication or circular of the kind mentioned in the question has been sent by me to the Vivekananda College or to any other college. Presumably, the hon. Member refers to G.O. Ms. No. 404, Education, dated 2nd March 1948, advising aided colleges to constitute advisory committees. A copy of the Government Order has been laid on the table of the House in answer to question No. 124.

(*b*) Does not arise in view of the answer above."

Policy as regards afforestation.

* 150 *Q.*—Sri R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state what the general policy of Government is in regard to afforestation and how they propose to give effect to it?

The Hon. Sri K. MADHAVA MENON:—"The policy of the Government is to afforest degenerated forest and waste lands, the objects being

(1) to prevent soil erosion and thereby to protect agricultural land and agriculturists' houses;

(2) to relieve the fuel and timber shortage; and

(3) to produce materials which have great commercial value.

"To give effect to this policy the Government have already undertaken a number of afforestation scheme such as

(i) casuarina plantations in Guntur, Nellore, Chingleput, Salem South (Padugais) divisions;

(ii) plantations on the Hagari and Pennar river banks;

(iii) wattle cultivation on the Nilgiris and Palnis.

"They are also having the following schemes under their consideration:—

(*a*) Afforestation of waste lands in the Madura, Ramnad and Tirunelveli districts.

(*b*) Afforestation of waste lands in Tanjore and Tiruchirappalli districts."